

CALENDAR

MASSACHUSETTS PESTICIDE EXAM SCHEDULE

UMASS Eastern Extension Center—240 Beaver St., Waltham

FEBRUARY 8. Deadline for submitting application is **FEBRUARY 1.**

QUESTIONS CALL—617-626-1785.

USDA STANDARDS BRING CHANGE FOR SOME

By Tom Burfield

Growers already in compliance with strict organic certification standards may have an advantage over those that are not when new U.S. Department of Agriculture organic regulations take effect.

Growers and some handlers of organic product have until October 2002 to comply with regulations prompted by the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 and formally adopted by USDA last spring.

Those not now certified or those inadequately certified will have to do what is necessary to bring themselves into compliance, and, if they fail to meet the deadline, it could be an economic boon to those who are in compliance, some industry members said.

Currently, there are dozens of organic certifying operations in the U.S., but there are no consistent, nationwide criteria. That means what is classified organic in one state may not be organic in another. Some states do not even have organic certification criteria.

The new law sets nationwide regulations for certification and requires all certifying organizations to meet and enforce specific criteria set forth by the USDA.

The regulations require that agricultural products labeled as organic originate from farms or handling operations certified by a state or private agency that has been accredited by the USDA.

Robert Schueller, assistant marketing director at World Variety Produce, Los Angeles, said his company will be ready when the new rules take effect, but he's not so sure about some of the others.

"Some companies aren't certified organic, even though they claim their product is organic," he said. Those companies may have a difficult time getting certified under the new USDA regulations, he said.

The regulations will clear up a lot of questions retailers might have in determining what is organic, and increased media exposure could help consumers learn more about the category, he said.

Rick LeJeune, co-owner of Health & LeJeune Incl, Los Angeles, said, as a handler, his company now will have to be certified.

Many grower-shippers were reluctant to get involved with the program in the beginning, he said.

"A lot of people in our industry are very individualistic and somewhat rebellious and didn't like the idea of more government regulation and intrusion," he explained. "But I think we're resigned to it, and we understand that it is going to provide us with more trust in our product."

(Article from "THE PACKER" November 26, 2001)

GUTHION, IMIDAN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPEN

The EPA has announced the 60-day public comment period and the availability of the interim risk management decision (IREDD) documents of azinphos-methyl and phosmet. The public is encouraged to submit comments on the interim risk management decision documents by the Jan. 28, 2002 deadline.

The recently announced proposed restrictions on the use of two agricultural pesticides, azinphos-methyl (Bayer's Guthion) and phosmet (Gowan's Imidan) will affect fruit and vegetable growers who use the products exclusively. Comments identified by docket control number OPP-34131D for Guthion and OPP-34173C for Imidan must be received by EPA on or before Jan. 28.

Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically or in person. Mail can be sent to:

Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division
Office of Pesticide Programs, EPA
Room 119, Crystal Mall #2
1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy,
Arlington, VA

You can respond by e-mail to: **opp-docket@epa.gov**.

U.S. GRADES FOR APPLES

INSECT STINGS

Where an insect has chewed a hole through the skin. Amount allowed **if stings are healed**:

U.S. Extra Fancy 1/8" diameter
 U.S. Fancy 3/16" diameter
 U.S. No. 1 3/16" diameter

The above allowance is for all the stings on the apple taken together as if they were one sting.

Apples injured by insect stings dry out faster. Rot can start from this injury.

Unhealed stings are considered as broken skin. Worm holes, including those made by apple maggot **are not allowed in any grade**.

APPLE SHIPMENT TRACKING

Source: USDA

Amounts are shown in units of 10,000 pounds

Season Begins	12/23/01- 12/29/01	12/16/01- 12/22/01	12/24/00- 12/30/00	Total this season 12/29/01	Total last season 12/30/00
SEPTEMBER	6,093	10,064	7,759	169,711	204,787

MID-WEEK F.O.B. PRICES AT MASSACHUSETTS COUNTRY SHIPPING POINT

Prices and grades received by telephone, January 23, 2002

No Change

Controlled Atmosphere

VARIETY	GRADE	SIZE	PRICE
McINTOSH	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	19.00
		96s	18.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.50
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	14.00
CORTLAND	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	72s & 80s	18.00
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.50
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	14.00
EMPIRE	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	18.00
		96s	17.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	11.50
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	13.00
RED DELICIOUS	Cartons Tray Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	13.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	11.00
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	13.00

FEDERAL MARKET NEWS SERVICE, EVERETT, MASS.

JANUARY 22, 2002

NEW ENGLAND

McINTOSH	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy (Controlled atmosphere)	80s	18.00-19.00 mostly 19.00
		96s & 100s	18.00-19.00
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	80s	12.00

CORTLAND		100s, 120s, 140s	9.00- 9.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. No. 1	12-3s 2-3/8" min	9.50
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	18.00
		96s	17.00
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	80s & 96s	12.00
SHIPPED IN			
McINTOSH	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S.ExFcy (Controlled atmosphere)	80s & 100s	19.00
	Lake Champlain Cartons CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	24.00
		100s	21.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1 (Controlled atmosphere)	120s & 140s	9.50
	Lake Champlain Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1	100s & 140s	12.00
	Lake Champlain Ctns FlmBg U.S. Fcy	12-3s 2-1/2" up	12.00
EMPIRE	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. Fcy	80s	18.00
		100s	16.00-17.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.00
RED DELICIOUS	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	64s, 72s, 80s, 88s	17.00-19.00 fine appear. 20.00-21.00
		100s	16.00-19.00 mostly 17.00-18.00 fine appear. 20.00-21.00
		125s	16.00-19.00 mostly 16.00-18.00 fine appear. 20.00-21.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBgs U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-3/8" min	12.00
GOLDEN DELICIOUS	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	100s	20.00-21.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-3/8" min	12.00
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	64s	Fine appear. 26.00-27.00
		72s	24.00 fine appear. 27.00
		80s	24.00
		88s	24.00-25.00 mostly 24.00
		100s	23.00-24.00
		113s	18.00-19.00
		125s	18.00
	WA Cartons Cell Pack WAExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	80s	26.00-27.00
		96s	24.00
ROYAL GALA	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	72s	28.00
		80s	27.00-28.00
		88s	26.00-28.00 mostly 26.00
		100s	24.00
RED ROME	NY Hudson Valley Ctn TryPk U.S. ExFcy	80s & 88s	15.00
	PA Cartons Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy	64s	16.00
		80s	15.00
ROME	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBgs U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.00
JONAGOLD	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	88s	23.00
FUJI	PA Cartons Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy	80s & 88s	24.00
		56s	24.00
		64s	22.00
		80s	24.00
		88s	Fine appear. 26.00
		100s	16.00-17.00 fine appear. 24.00

BRAEBURN	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	80s	24.00
		88s	24.00-25.00 mostly 24.00
		100s	22.00
CAMEO	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	80s	24.00
GRANNY SMITH	CA Cartons Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy (Controlled Atmosphere)	64s	26.00-28.00 mostly 28.00
		72s	26.00-28.00 mostly 26.00
		80s, 88s, 100s	24.00
		113s	21.00
		125s	18.00
CIDER	New England Preserved Cartons	4-1 gallon bottles	9.00- 9.40 mostly 9.00
		9 ½-gallon bottles	10.00 best 11.25
Howard Vinton, Editor			